

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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SUBJECT: CONTRIBUTION TO RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN REPORT  
OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

REF: STATE 103846

AS REQUESTED REFTEL, THERE FOLLOW OUR COMMENTS TO THE  
QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE SENATE REPORT NO. 93-176 OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS ON S. 1248 TO AUTHORIZE  
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT:

A. JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUING U. S. MEMBERSHIP IN NATO  
THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY PROVIDES A SYSTEM OF COLLECTIVE  
SECURITY FOR ITS SIGNATORIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 51  
OF THE UN CHARTER. THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION,  
ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE TREATY, REMAINS THE PRIMARY  
VEHICLE FOR ORGANIZING THE CONTINUING DEFENSE OF ALLIANCE  
MEMBERS AGAINST ANY ATTACK. IT IS OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE  
TO U. S. SECURITY. FURTHERMORE, POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS IN  
NATO HAVE BEEN THE PRINCIPAL MEANS OF FORGING THE COMMON  
POLICIES NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN STRENGTH AND COHESION  
IN THE POST- WAR WORLD. THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL HAS SERVED  
AS A CONTINUING FORUM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION  
OF INITIATIVES TO DEAL WITH THE SOURCES OF TENSIONS BETWEEN  
EAST AND WEST. NATO REMAINS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO  
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ORGANIZE AND COORDINATE POLITICAL AND SECURITY RELATIONS  
BETWEEN THE U. S. AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF NATO. IT HAS  
AND IS SERVING AS A JOINT POLICY- MAKING BODY FOR THE ALLIES  
ON THE MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS NEGOTIATION AND ON THE

CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE. NATO REMAINS A FUNDAMENTAL FACTOR IN MAINTAINING PEACE AND STABILITY IN A MOST IMPORTANT AREA OF THE WORLD.

B. HOW U. S. ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATO IS CALCULATED  
THE U. S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CIVIL BUDGET IS BASED ON THE NET ASSESSED BUDGET AFTER TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RECEIPTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS OBTAINED FROM BANK INTERESTS, REIMBURSEMENT OF PERSONNEL OF MILITARY AGENCIES, RENTAL OF FACILITIES TO CONCESSIONAIRES IN THE NATO HEADQUARTERS, ETC. THE U. S. SHARE OF THE NET ASSESSED BUDGET IS THEN CALCULATED ON A COST-SHARING FORMULA OF 24.2 PCT. CURRENT AUTHORITY FOR U. S. PARTICIPATION IS NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY, APRIL 4, 1949 63 RD STAT. 2241, TIAS 1964. THE U. S. CONTRIBUTION IS REVIEWED BY THE CIVIL BUDGET COMMITTEE AND APPROVED BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. THE FUNDS PRIMARILY ARE USED FOR THE PAY OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF PERSONNEL, UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING AT EVERE, BELGIUM, AND PAYMENT TOWARD THE SCIENCE AND INFORMATION PROGRAMS. NOTE: THERE ARE OTHER BUDGETS THAT ARE FUNDED FROM DOD APPROPRIATIONS, I. E., MBC, INFRASTRUCTURE, CEOC ETC.

C. HOW THE U. S. CAN REDUCE THE PERCENTAGE OF ITS CONTRIBUTION  
TO REDUCE THE PERCENTAGE OF ITS CONTRIBUTION, THE U. S. COULD TREAT THE MATTER AS A PART OF THE OVERALL U. S. EFFORT TO REDUCE ITS SHARE TOWARDS PAYMENTS TO NATO AS A WHOLE, I. E., INFRASTRUCTURE, MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE, CIVIL BUDGET COMMITTEE, NAMSA, CEOA, ETC. THIS OVERALL PROBLEM OF COST-SHARING REDUCTION CAN ONLY BE NEGOTIATED IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL, AND WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF NATO. THE PRESENT U. S. SHARE OF 24.2 PCT HAS BEEN UNCHANGED SINCE 1955. THE MILITARY BUDGET PERCENTAGE OF 24.2 PERCENT WAS INCREASED TO 25 PERCENT IN 1966 WHEN THE INFRASTRUCTURE PERCENTAGE WAS REDUCED. THE INFRASTRUCTURE SHARE WAS ORIGINALLY ABOUT 44 PCT BUT WAS GRADUALLY REDUCED TO 25.77 PCT IN 1966, INCREASED TO 29.6 PCT UPON WITHDRAWAL OF FRANCE FROM NATO.

D. HOW THE U. S. CAN WITHDRAW FROM NATO  
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IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 13 OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY, THE TREATY HAVING BEEN IN FORCE NOW FOR 20 YEARS, A COUNTRY CEASES TO BE A PARTY TO THE TREATY ONE YEAR AFTER ITS NOTICE OF DENUNCIATION HAS BEEN ISSUED.

2. USNATO COMMENTS ON PARA 3 REFTEL WERE SENT IN USNATO 2871. RUMSFEL  
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